

06-19-00

A

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW OFFICES

CARRIER, BLACKMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

24101 NOVI ROAD
SUITE 100
NOVI, MICHIGAN 48375

Tel. (248) 344-4422; Fax (248) 344-1096
E-mail: cba@home.msen.com
www.carrier-blackman.com

JOSEPH P. CARRIER*

WILLIAM D. BLACKMAN*

*Registered to practice
before the U.S. Patent and
Trademark Office

U. S. and Foreign Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Computer Law, Trade Secrets, Licensing, and Litigation

06/16/00
JC861 U.S. PTO

JC861 U.S. PTO
09/595943
06/16/00

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE NO. EM441304501US

Our Ref. EOD-103-A

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 16, 2000

Sir:

Enclosed please find an application for U.S. Letters Patent as identified below:

Inventors: Robert EASTMAN II

Invention: OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-
DAMPENING LINER

and including: Specification, Claims and Abstract; Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity
Status-Independent Inventor; Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status-Small
Business Concern; Declaration and Power Of Attorney; and Drawings - 5 sheets, formal.

Basic Fee	\$345.00
0 claims over 20 x \$18.00	0.00
0 independent claims over 3 x \$78.00	0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE:	\$345.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required \$345.00 fee representing the fee for filing the application; as well as to charge any deficiency which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or to credit any excess paid during the entire pendency of the application, to Deposit Account 50-0744 in the name of Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

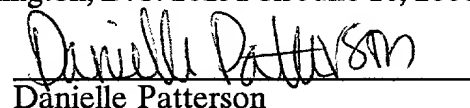


William D. Blackman
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,397
(248) 344-4422

Customer Number 21828
Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C.
24101 Novi Road, Suite 100
Novi, Michigan 48375
June 16, 2000

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Certificate EM441304501US in an envelope addressed to Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 16, 2000.

Dated: June 16, 2000
WDB/dp
enclosures


Danielle Patterson

095943-034600

Application Serial No.: Unknown

For: **OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-DAMPENING LINER**

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
37 CFR §1.9(f) and §1.27(b) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am an official empowered to act on behalf of the following small business concern: The Game Tracker, Inc., 3476 Eastman Drive, Flushing, MI 48433

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business as defined in 13 CFR §§121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR §1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under §§41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent And Trademark Office in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when, either directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern above with regard to the invention entitled **OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-DAMPENING LINER** by inventor Robert Eastman II described in the specification filed herewith.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR §1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR §1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR §1.9(e).

No such person, concern or organization.

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR §1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made

are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Robert Eastman II

CEO

Name of person signing

Title of person signing (other than owner)

The Game Tracker, Inc, 3476 Eastman Drive, Flushing, MI 48433

Address of person signing



Signature

6-12-2010

Date

WDB/dp

0095943-061600

Applicant: M. Robert Eastman II
 Application Serial No.: Unknown
 For: OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-DAMPENING LINER

**VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
 (37 CFR §1.27(c)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR §1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under §41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code to the Patent And Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-DAMPENING LINER described in the specification filed herewith.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR §1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR §1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR §1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention to, is listed below.

The Game Tracker, Inc., 3476 Eastman Drive, Flushing, MI 48433 - Small Business Concern

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR §1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is desired.

Robert Eastman II

Name Of Inventor



Signature Of The Inventor

6-12-2001

Date

WDB/dp

095943-061000

OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT-DAMPENING LINER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 **1. Field of the invention**

The present invention relates to portable shelters and similar outdoor enclosures, for providing a hidden location for a hunter or naturalist to occupy in the field, while observing or waiting for game or other wildlife. More particularly, the present invention relates to a hunting blind, shelter or similar outdoor enclosure having a scent-dampening liner therein.

10 **2. Description of the Background Art**

When out in the field for moderate or long periods, hunters often spend time in hunting blinds to disguise themselves from game, and also to protect themselves from inclement weather. However, a problem arises when a blind is used for more than a short time, because the scent of humans may be associated with the structure. It is well known that wild animals have the ability to recognize human scent as alien to their normal surroundings. When a wild animal detects human scent, the animal is apt to quickly depart and leave the area where it detects such a scent. It will be appreciated that this result will be displeasing to the hunter.

Similarly, naturalists, nature photographers, and environmental scientists often work out in the field, such as in forest or wilderness areas. Naturalists often wish to approach wild animals as closely as possible without being detected, in order to photograph or observe the animals in their natural habitat, while disturbing them as little as possible. Accordingly, these people also find it useful to mask their scent as much as feasible.

Many designs for hunting blinds are known. Class 135, subclass 900 is provided in the U.S. Patent Classification System for the listing of hunting blinds and ice-fishing shelters.

5 Fargason, U.S. patent 5,983,913 discloses a hunting blind with a small vent hole near ground level, and a flexible tube extending from the top of the shelter to a point approximately 30 feet from the ground. According to the teaching of the patent specification of this reference, when the wind contacts this shelter, the wind speed will be higher at the top of the shelter than it will be at ground level, where the vent is located. Also according to the theory of the Fargason reference, this wind speed differential will have a tendency to move air in through the vent hole, upwardly through the shelter, and out of the top of the flexible tube, thereby removing any scent of human shelter occupants to an area 30 feet above ground level, where it will not be detected by nearby game outside of the shelter.

10 Adams, U.S. patent 6,009,673 discloses a portable insulated modular shelter, which is usable as a hunting blind, ice fishing shelter, or wildlife observatory. Several other known designs for hunting blinds, ice fishing shelters and similar enclosures are referred to and discussed in the background section of the Adams >673 reference.

15 Some specialized clothing and quilted material, which has scent-absorbing features, is known, such as that disclosed in U.S. patent numbers 5,539,930, 5,585,107, 5,678,247, 5,891,391 and 5,706,535.

20 Although the known devices are useful for their intended purposes, a need still exists in the art for an improved method of dampening the natural scent of humans in a hunting blind. A need also exists for an outdoor blind or concealing cover having scent-dampening properties.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a portable hunting blind or similar enclosure, to provide concealing cover to a hunter in the field. An enclosure according to the present invention
5 includes a scent-dampening liner on the interior thereof.

An enclosure according to the present invention includes at least one wall, and further includes a lining material disposed on a surface of the wall. The lining material includes a binder and a multiplicity of carbon particles interspersed in the binder. The lining material may be sprayed on or otherwise attached to an interior surface of the wall. Alternatively, the lining
10 material may be affixed to a surface of a fabric, which is attached to the inner wall surface.

In one particular embodiment of the invention, the enclosure includes a plurality of screen panel sections pivotally connected in a sequence.

In another embodiment of the invention, the enclosure may be a tent-like structure formed of flexible fabric and including a roof section and a fabric support structure, such as resiliently
15 flexible poles or the like.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the enclosure may have solid walls with a liner attached to an interior surface of one or more of the walls.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a portable hunting blind or similar enclosure having a scent-dampening liner therein.

20 For a more complete understanding of the present invention, the reader is referred to the following detailed description section, which should be read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. Throughout the following detailed description and in the drawings, like numbers refer to like parts.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

5 Figure 2A is a cross-sectional detail view showing a first possible construction of a wall portion of the hunting enclosure of Figure 1;

Figure 2B is a cross-sectional detail view showing a second possible construction of a wall portion of the hunting enclosure of Figure 1;

Figure 2C is a cross-sectional detail view showing a third possible construction of a wall portion of the hunting enclosure of Figure 1;

10 Figure 3 is a cut away detail plan view of a portion of a liner, which is part of the wall structure of Figure 2A, 2B or 2C;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention;

15 Figure 5 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a fifth embodiment of the present invention; and

20 Figure 8 is a perspective view of a portable hunting enclosure in accordance with a sixth embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to Figure 1, a portable enclosure, in accordance with a first embodiment of the invention for use in helping to conceal a hunter or naturalists, is shown generally at 10.

5 The enclosure 10 is provided as a portable structure, which is easily assembled in the field to provide concealing cover to a user thereof. The enclosure 10 in this first example includes three panels 12, 14 and 16 pivotally joined together in a sequence. Each of the panels 12, 14, 16 includes a wall 20, reinforced by a support frame 18. The support frame 18 may be made of flexible fiberglass or plastic material. Each panel 12,14,16 further has a window
10 aperture 15 formed therein.

As seen in Figures 2A-3, in this first embodiment, the panel wall 20 includes a fabric 22 for placement facing outwardly at the exterior of the enclosure 10. The fabric 22 is preferably printed or otherwise decorated on the outer surface thereof with an outdoor theme or other camouflage pattern, to help it blend in with the natural surroundings in an outdoor environment.

15 The fabric selected may be nylon or may be other durable and weather-tolerant material.

The panel wall 20 also includes a carbonaceous liner 24, which has been painted, sprayed or otherwise directly bonded on to the inner surface of the fabric 22. The liner 24 includes a flexible binder material 26 (Figure 3) and a multiplicity of carbon particles 28 dispersed within the binder. The binder is preferred to be a flexible material for applications to a fabric 22 and
20 may include an elastomer, which may be a polyacrylate, a polyurethane, a polyolefin, or other suitable binder known in the art. In a preferred embodiment, the carbon particles 28 are finely divided or pulverulent activated carbon. The carbon particles 28 are irregularly shaped, and are preferred to be of an average size in a range between 0.01 and 5 mm in diameter.

The carbon particles 28 of the lining tend to dampen or absorb the scent of a human in the enclosure 10, thereby reducing the likelihood that the human's presence will be detected by game animals or other prey. This will contribute to a more successful hunting or other outdoor experience.

5 Alternate Liner Construction

10 An alternative construction of a panel wall 120 is shown in Figure 2B. In this alternate embodiment, a first fabric section 121 makes up the exterior surface of the panel 120. Once again, the first fabric section 121 of the panel 120 is preferred to be printed or otherwise decorated on the outwardly facing surface thereof with an outdoor theme or other camouflage pattern, to help it blend in with the natural surroundings in an outdoor environment. A second fabric section 122 is separately attached to the first fabric section 121 to carry a carbonaceous separate liner 124. Together, the separate fabric section 122 and liner 124 define a composite scent-dampening sheet 125. Holes may be formed in appropriate portions, as needed; to allow interior access to apertures formed in the first fabric section, such as windows, doors, and the like.

15 Where the composite scent-dampening sheet and its separate liner 124 is used, it may be sewn on to the first fabric section 121 or, alternatively, may be removably attached thereto using hook and loop fasteners such as VELCRO®. The carbonaceous separate liner 124 is bonded or sprayed on to the inner surface of the second fabric section 122. The separate liner 124 is
20 constructed substantially the same as the first embodiment, that is, the liner includes a binder 26 (Figure 3) and a multiplicity of carbon particles 28 dispersed within the binder. The binder 26 is preferred to be a flexible material for applications to a flexible fabric 122 and may include a polyacrylate, polyurethane, a polyolefin, or other suitable binder known in the art. In a preferred

embodiment, the carbon particles 28 are finely divided or pulverulent activated carbon. The carbon particles 28 are irregularly shaped, and are preferred to be of an average size in a range between 0.01 and 5 mm in diameter.

It is not required for every panel of the enclosure to have a carbonaceous lining to conform to the present invention, although the present invention encompasses the use of a liner on every panel for maximum scent-dampening effect. An enclosure 10 which includes even a single wall panel such as 12, having a carbonaceous directly bonded lining 24 on an inwardly facing surface thereof, will provide some improved scent dampening effect, in comparison to an unlined enclosure.

Second Enclosure Option

Referring now to Figure 4, an alternate enclosure in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention is shown generally at 210. The enclosure 210 in this embodiment is similar to the enclosure 10 of the first embodiment, except that in the second embodiment, the enclosure 210 includes six sequentially interconnected panels 212, 214, 215, 216, 217 and 218, respectively. Other numbers of panels, such as four, five, or seven panels could alternatively be used. One or more of the panels in this embodiment is coated with a carbonaceous lining, substantially similar to that shown and described in connection with Figures 2-3.

Third Enclosure Option

Referring now to Figure 5, another alternate enclosure in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention is shown generally at 310. The enclosure 310 in this embodiment includes four substantially triangular panels 312, 314, 315, and 316, respectively, sewn together to form a pointed dome shape, with a zippered entrance door 318 in one of the

panels 314. Windows 320 and openings 321 for extending a weapon outwardly from the enclosure 310 are also provided in the structure thereof.

Fiberglass or other resiliently flexible poles (not shown) may be used, in conventional fashion, in tubular sleeves formed at the junction seams of the panels to provide a support structure for the enclosure 310. Alternatively, rigid tent poles may be used.

An interior surface of one or more of the panels 312, 314, 315, and 316 in this embodiment is coated with a carbonaceous lining, substantially similar to that shown and described in connection with Figures 2-3.

Fourth Enclosure Option

Referring now to Figure 6, a further alternate enclosure in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the present invention is shown generally at 410. The enclosure 410 in this embodiment includes four substantially rectangular panels 412, 414, 415, and 416, respectively, sewn together to form a box shape, with a zippered entrance door 418 in one of the panels 414. A roof 417 is attached in covering relation to the base formed from the panels 412, 414, 415, and 416. Any conventional support structure, such as tent poles or the like (not shown) may be used to support the enclosure 410.

Windows 420 and openings 421 for extending a weapon outwardly from the enclosure 410 are also provided in the structure thereof. An interior surface of one or more of the panels 412, 414, 415, and 416 in this embodiment is coated with a carbonaceous lining, substantially similar to that shown and described in connection with Figures 2-3.

Fifth Enclosure Option

Referring now to Figure 7, a further alternate enclosure in accordance with a fifth embodiment of the present invention is shown generally at 510. The enclosure 510 in this

embodiment includes four substantially solid, rectangular walls 514, 516, 518, and 520, respectively, nailed or otherwise joined together to form a box shape, with a hinged entrance door 512 in one of the walls 520. A roof 522 is attached in covering relation to the base formed from the solid walls 514, 516, 518, and 520. Windows 524 and openings 526 for extending a
5 weapon outwardly from the enclosure 510 are also provided in the structure thereof. One or more of the walls 514, 516, 518, and 520, in this embodiment is coated with a carbonaceous lining, substantially similar to that shown and described in connection with Figures 2-3.

The liner may be directly spray-coated or otherwise painted on to one or more inner surfaces of the enclosure 510, in a manner similar to that shown and discussed in connection with
10 Figures 2A and 3.

An alternative construction for the solid wall 520 is shown in Figure 2C. In this alternate embodiment, a solid wall section 131 makes up the exterior surface of 520. A fabric section 132 is separately attached to the solid wall section 131 to carry a carbonaceous liner 134. The liner
15 134 includes a binder and a multiplicity of carbon particles suspended and dispersed throughout the binder as discussed herein in connection with the previous embodiments.

Sixth Enclosure Option

Referring now to Figure 8, a further alternate enclosure, in accordance with a sixth embodiment of the present invention, is shown generally at 610. The enclosure 610 in this embodiment includes four substantially rectangular panels 612, 614, 615, and 616, respectively,
20 sewn together to form a box shape, with a zippered entrance door 618 formed in one of the panels 612, which will be referred to herein as the door panel.

Windows 620, which provide openings for extending a weapon outwardly from the enclosure 610 are also provided in the structure of the wall panels.

A roof panel 617 is attached in covering relation to the base formed from the panels 612, 614, 615, and 616. Optionally, the roof panel 617 may have one or more zippered vents openings 619 formed therein.

In this embodiment of a portable outdoor enclosure 610, foldably collapsible X-shaped subframe assemblies 630 support the roof panel 617 and three of the sidewall panels 614, 615 and 616 in the assembled configuration. These subframe assemblies are substantially identical to the subframe assemblies shown and described in U.S. patent 3,810,482. The disclosure and drawings of U.S. patent 3,810,482 are hereby incorporated by reference.

In order to provide access space to allow a user of the enclosure 610 to enter through the door panel 612 when the door 618 is open, a different support structure 632 than that used for the other panels is to support the door panel. The door panel support structure 632 includes three pole members 634, 636, and 638 which are pivotally connected to one another and which may be opened to form substantially a U-shape in the unfolded configuration thereof.

One or more of the wall panels 612, 614, 615, and 616 and/or the roof panel 617 in this embodiment is coated with a carbonaceous lining, substantially similar to that shown and described in connection with Figures 2-3. The lining includes a binder material and a multiplicity of carbon particles interspersed and suspended in the binder material. The carbonaceous lining may be bonded directly to a fabric wall or roof panel on the interior surface thereof as shown in Figure 2A, or alternatively, may be bonded to a separate piece of fabric material which is attached to an inner wall surface of the panel. Where separate fabric material is used to carry the liner, it may be sewn on to the outer layer of fabric, or may be attached thereto using a hook-and-loop fastener such as that sold under the trademark VELCRO.

It will be understood from the foregoing examples that a hunting blind or enclosure in accordance with the invention may be provided in a wide assortment of shapes and sizes, so long as at least part of the interior thereof has a carbonaceous liner therein to dampen the scent of occupants.

- 5 Although the present invention has been described herein with respect to a number of preferred embodiments thereof, the foregoing description is intended to be illustrative, and not restrictive. Those skilled in the art will realize that many modifications of the preferred embodiments could be made which would be operable. All such modifications, which are within the scope of the claims, are intended to be within the scope and spirit of the present invention.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A portable enclosure, comprising:
2 at least one wall; and
3 a lining material disposed on a surface of said wall;
4 wherein said lining material comprises a binder and a multiplicity of carbon particles
5 interspersed in the binder.
- 1 2. The enclosure of Claim 1, wherein the enclosure comprises a plurality of panel sections
2 pivotally connected in a sequence.
- 1 3. The enclosure of Claim 1, wherein the binder comprises a polymer selected from the
2 group consisting of polyacrylates, polyurethanes, polyolefins, and mixtures thereof.
- 1 4. The enclosure of claim 1, wherein the lining material is attached to an inner surface of the
2 wall.
- 1 5. The enclosure of claim 1, wherein the lining material is attached to fabric material which
2 is separate from, and which is attached to an inner surface of the wall.
- 1 6. The enclosure of claim 1, wherein the wall is formed from flexible fabric material.

1 7. The enclosure of claim 1, wherein in the carbon particle size ranges from between 0.01
2 mm and 5 mm in diameter

1 8. The enclosure of claim 1, comprising four substantially triangular fabric wall panels sewn
2 together to form a pointed dome shape, wherein one of the wall panels comprises a zippered
3 entrance door therein.

1 9. The enclosure of claim 1, comprising four substantially rectangular fabric wall panels
2 sewn together to form a box shape, and a flexible roof panel, wherein one of the wall panels
3 comprises a zippered entrance door therein.

1 10. A portable enclosure, comprising:
2 at least four interconnected wall sections;
3 door means for allowing a user entry into, and egress from said enclosure;
4 a roof attached to at least two of said wall sections; and
5 a lining material disposed on an interior surface of at least one of said wall sections or on
6 said roof;
7 wherein said lining material comprises a binder and a multiplicity of carbon particles
8 interspersed in the binder

1 11. The enclosure of claim 10, wherein the binder comprises a polymer selected from the
2 group consisting of polyacrylates, polyurethanes, polyolefins, and mixtures thereof.

1 12. The enclosure of claim 10, wherein the lining material is directly attached to an inner
2 surface of the wall.

1 13. The enclosure of claim 10, where in the lining material is attached to a fabric material
2 which is attached to an inner surface of the wall.

1 14. The enclosure of claim 10, wherein said wall sections comprise a rigid material

1 15. The enclosure of claim 10, wherein the carbon particle size ranges from between 0.01
2 mm and 5 mm in diameter.

1 16. The enclosure of claim 10, further comprising four foldably collapsible X-shaped
2 subframe assemblies and one foldably collapsible U-shaped support structure;

3 wherein the roof panel is formed of a flexible material, and wherein the roof panel and
4 three of the wall panels are supported in the assembled configuration by foldably collapsible X-
5 shaped subframe assemblies;

6 wherein the door means comprises a zipper attached to one of said wall panels;

7 and wherein the wall panel having the door means attached thereto is supported by said
8 U-shaped support structure.

1 17. The enclosure of claim 16, wherein said foldably collapsible U-shaped support structure
2 comprises three pole members which are pivotally connected to one another.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A portable hunting blind or enclosure, to provide cover to a hunter or naturalist in the field, is provided with a scent-dampening liner. An enclosure according to the present invention includes at least one wall, and a lining material disposed on a surface thereof. In the preferred
5 embodiment of the invention, the lining material includes a binder and a multiplicity of carbon particles interspersed in the binder. Alternatively, the lining material may be affixed to fabric surface, which is attached to the inner wall. One embodiment of the invention, the enclosure includes screen panel sections pivotally connected in a sequence. In another embodiment of the invention, a tent-like structure is formed of flexible fabric and includes a roof section and a
10 support structure. In yet another embodiment of the invention, the enclosure has solid walls with a liner attached to an Interior surface of one or more of the walls.

FIG-1

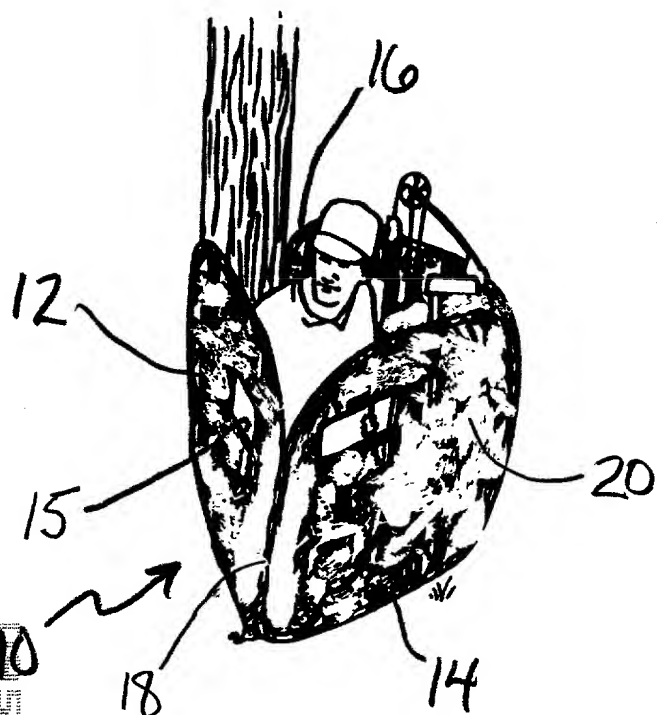


FIG-4

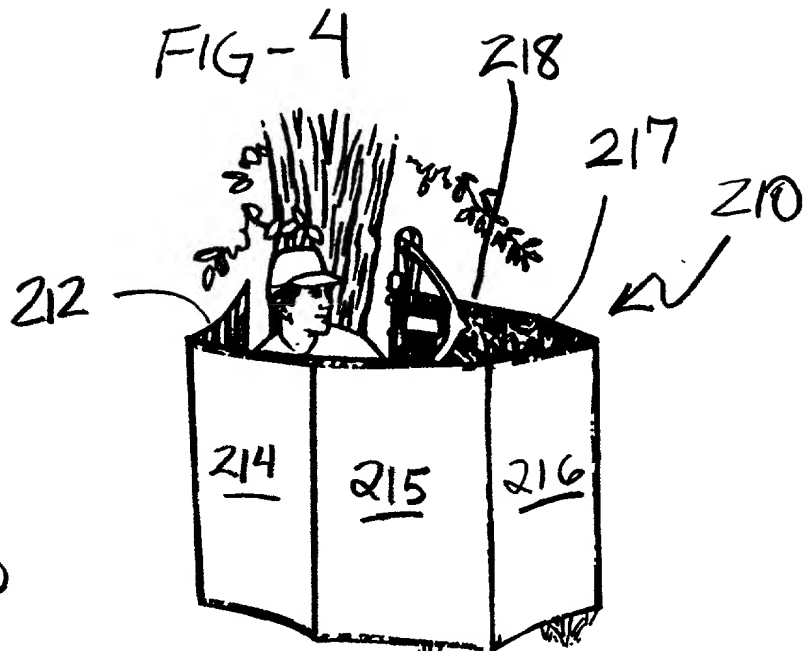


FIG-2A

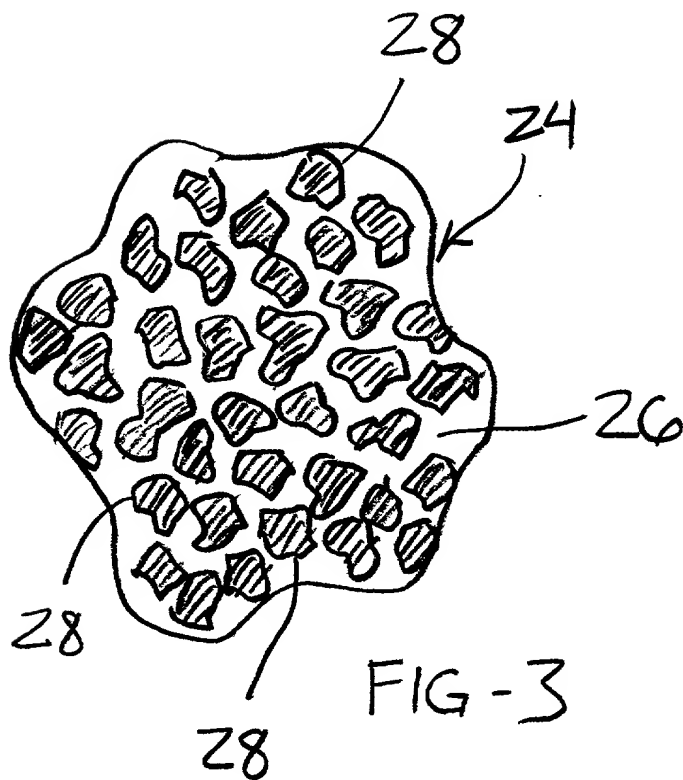
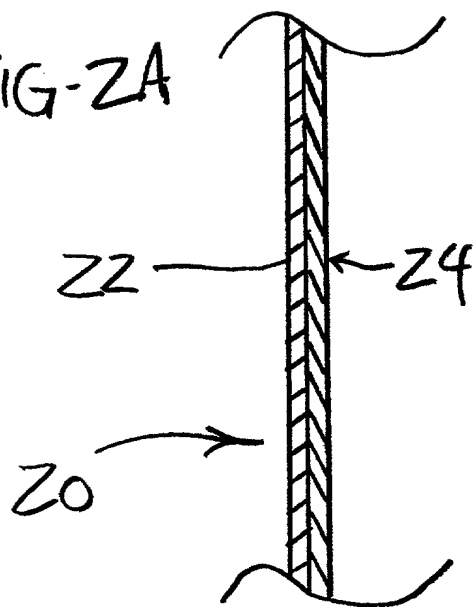


FIG-3

FIG-2B

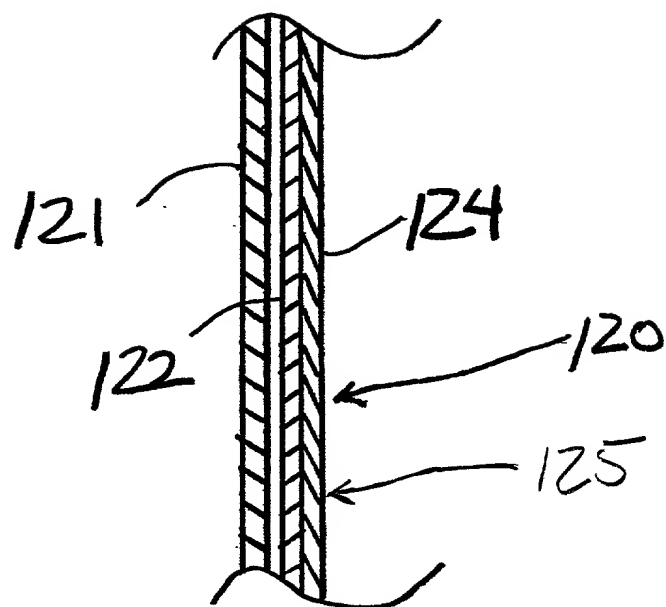
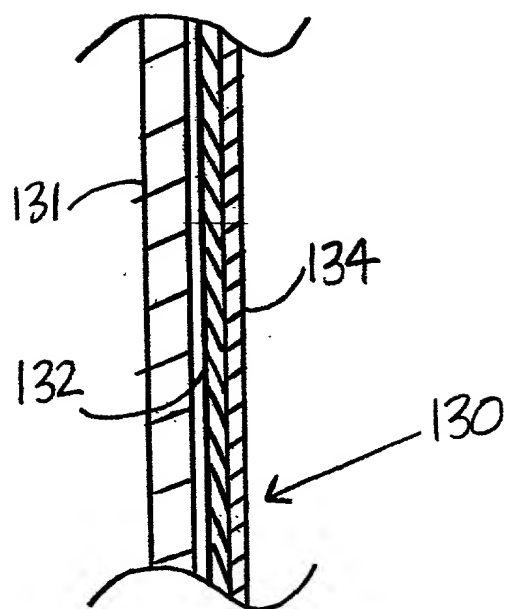
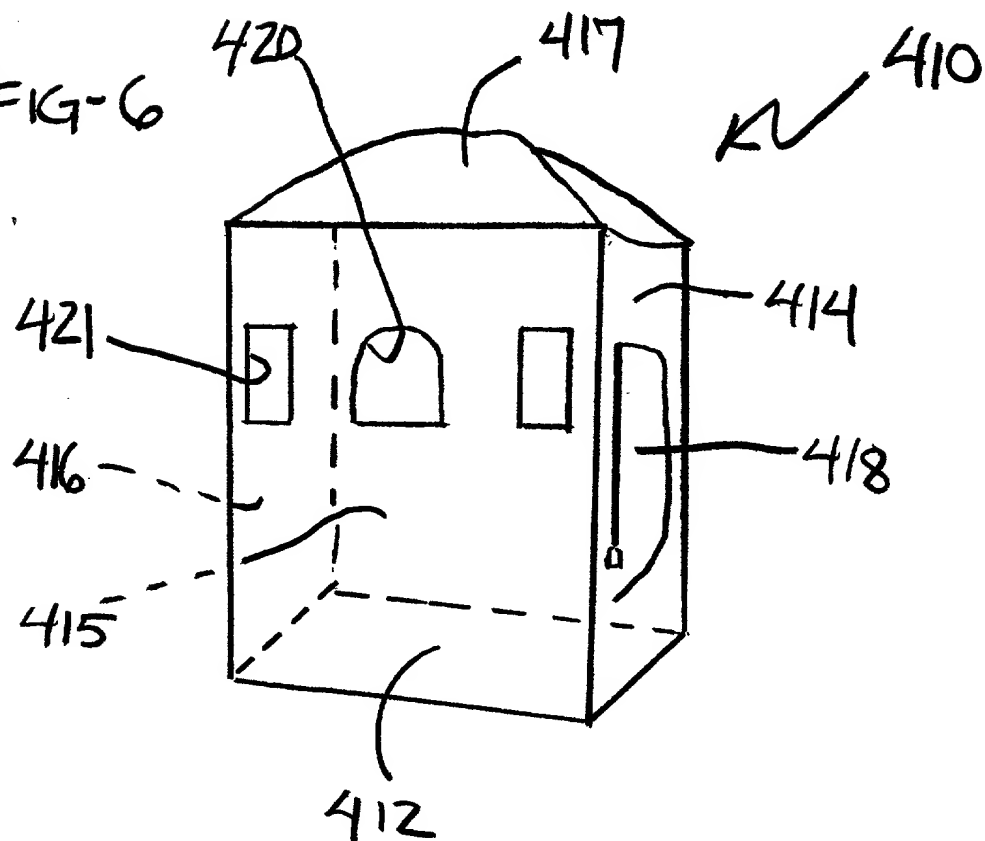


FIG-2C



	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2
--	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	---



Variable	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Age	34.2	10.5	22	55
Gender	0.5	0.5	0	1
Marital Status	0.6	0.5	0	1
Education	12.5	1.5	10	16
Income	3500	1500	1000	8000
Health	0.8	0.2	0	1
Stress	4.5	1.5	1	7
Life Satisfaction	5.2	1.2	3	7
Work Satisfaction	4.8	1.1	3	7
Family Satisfaction	5.5	1.3	3	7
Community Satisfaction	5.0	1.0	3	7
Overall Satisfaction	5.1	1.1	3	7

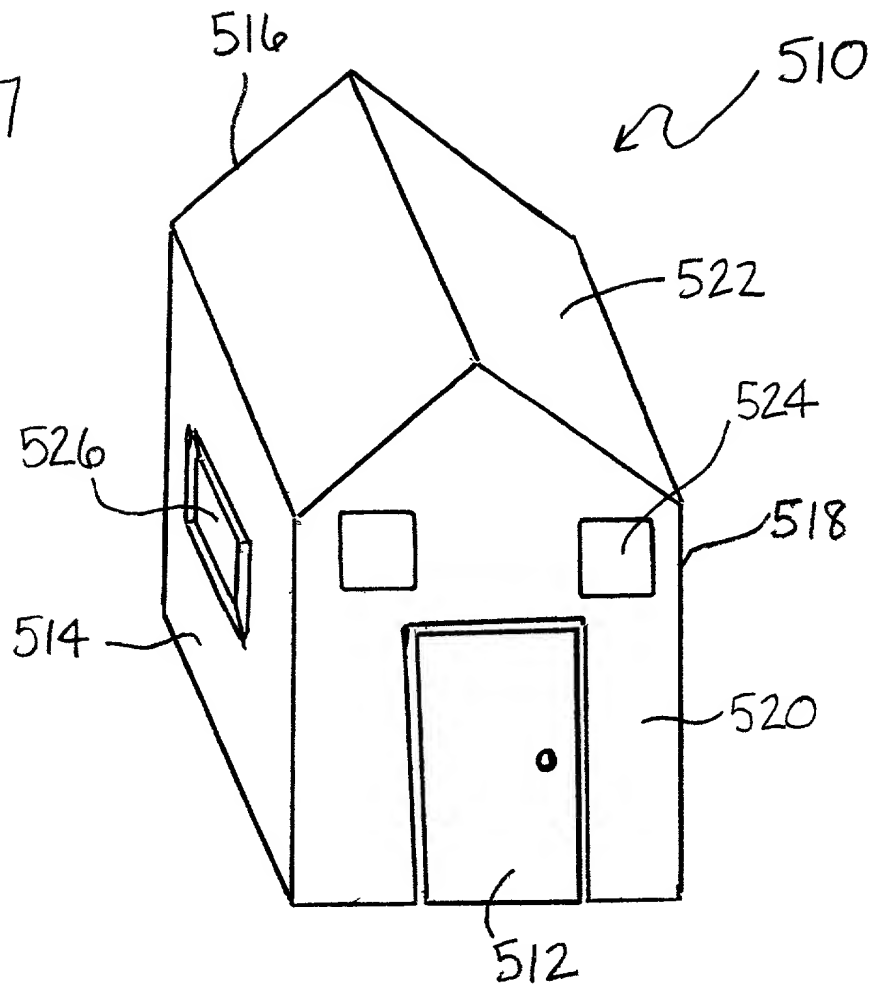
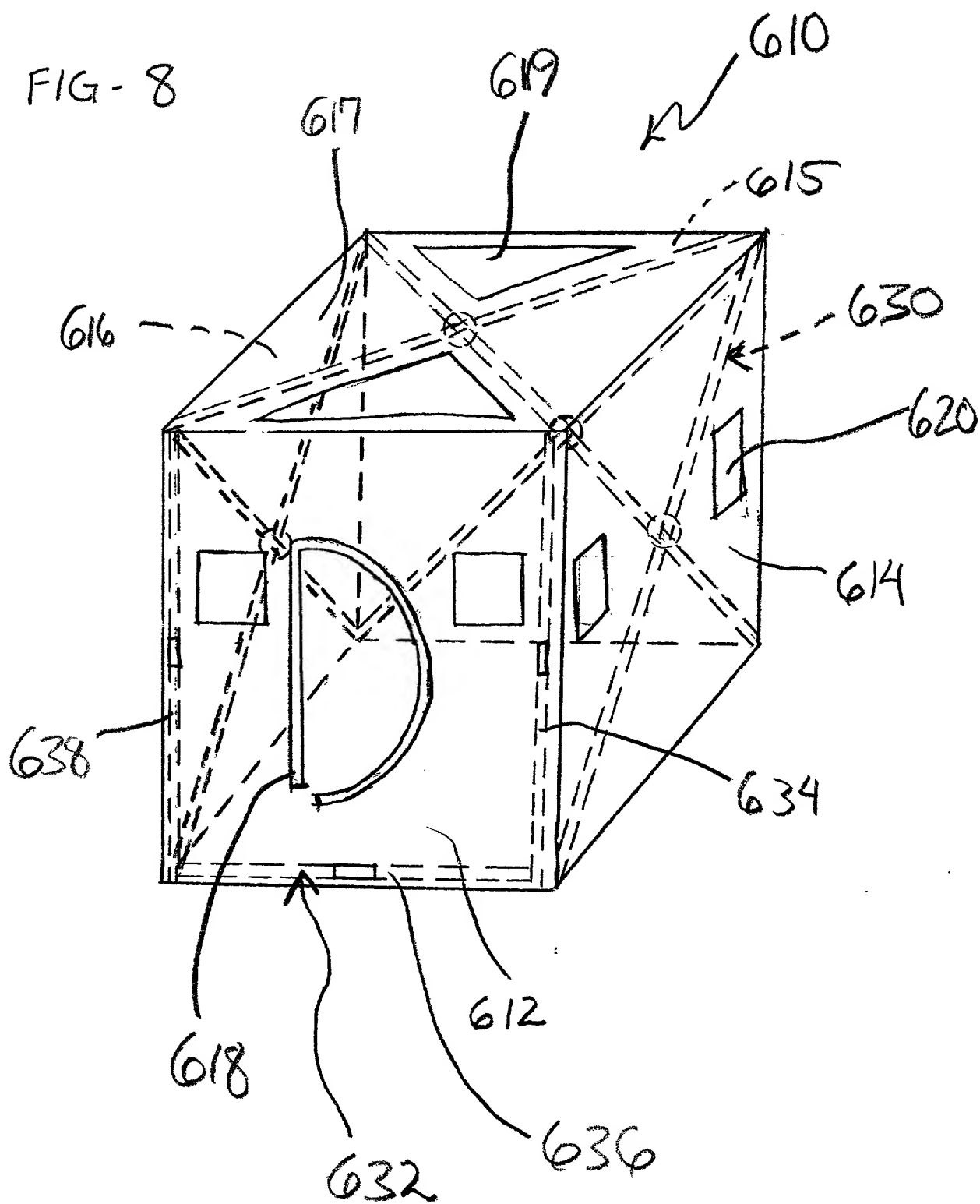


FIG- 8



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE WITH SCENT DAMPENING LINER, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is known to me to be material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

None.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein on my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY As a named inventor, I hereby appoint to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith the following attorneys: Joseph P. Carrier, Reg. No. 31,748, and William D. Blackman, Reg. 32,397.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

CARRIER, BLACKMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
24101 Novi Road, Suite 100
Novi, Michigan 48375

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

Joseph P. Carrier or William D. Blackman
(248) 344-4422

Full name of sole inventor: Robert Eastman II

Inventor's signature: 

Date 6-12-2000

Residence: Flushing, Michigan, USA

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: c/o Eastman Outdoors, P.O. Box 380, Flushing, MI 48433

009750" 24556560